

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office action mailed August 23, 2006. Upon entry of this response, claims 1 – 21 and 52 – 63 remain pending. In particular, Applicants cancel claims 22, 64 – 102, and 113 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants cancel claims 22, 64 – 102, and 113 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Examiner Interview

Applicants sincerely appreciate the time Examiner Huynh spent with Applicants' attorney, Anthony Bonner in a telephone discussion on or about September 13, 2006. During that conversation, Examiner Huynh indicated that the Office Action was written to require Applicants to elect to prosecute one of three groups of claims. While no agreement was met, Applicants request Examiner Huynh to consider the remarks included herein.

II. 35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

In addition, the Office Action asserts that claims 22, 64, and 81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. Applicants cancel these claims and consider this issue moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully elect to prosecute claims 1 – 21 and 52 – 63, without traverse. More specifically, Applicants cancel 22, 64 – 102, and 113 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present the non-elected claims, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequent to the present application and do not intend to dedicate this subject matter to the public. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony F. Bonner, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

Anthony F. Bonner, Jr.
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